



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PETS AT RISK DURING HEAT WAVE

County Animal Services Offers Tips to Keep Pets Cool and Healthy

The county is in the midst of a "High Heat Warning," prompting the San Diego County Department of Animal Services to issue safety advice to pet owners today.

Director of Animal Services, Dawn Danielson, reminds the public that pets can be very sensitive to high heat, especially if adequate shade is not provided. "I encourage everyone to take care of their pets by providing plenty of fresh water and shade. Also, reduce or stop any exercise when it is hot," said Danielson.

Additional tips include:

- Keep your pets indoors if the temperature is lower inside.
- If your pet is outside, provide shade ALL DAY. Remember, the sun's position changes during the day.
- Keep your pet's water supply full and in a tip-proof container; make sure it stays cool (pets will not drink water that is too hot).
- Provide a child's wading pool so your dog can take a dip to keep cool.
- Consider a misting system for outdoor areas.
- Do not take your pets in the car unless absolutely necessary. A car can heat up quickly, reaching more than 100 degrees in 10 minutes, even with the windows slightly open.
- If you exercise with your dog, do it early in the morning when the temperature is lower.

If you see a pet that is in imminent danger of death or injury, please call the Department of Animal Services' emergency number at (760) 438-1460 in the North County or (619) 236-2341 in central or southern San Diego County.

For non-emergencies, please call (619) 767-2675 or go to the Department of Animal Services' Web site at <http://www.sddac.com/>.

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